

RF Attorney Docket No. 502.1152USN 3/29/07 - 6 -

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested. The abstract was objected to. A revised abstract has been prepared that should be in full conformance. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1 and 5-10 were rejected under Section 102 as being anticipated by Bridges. This rejection is respectfully traversed. No new matter has been added to the claims.

To summarize the present invention, it is an effective method for dynamically updating the list of preferred networks in the mobile equipment. This is different from conventional dynamic roaming management that intrusively and actively attempts to move the mobile equipment from the non-preferred network to a preferred network. The present invention also ensures that the lists of preferred networks of roaming mobile equipment/phones are updated. Additionally, the method of the present invention, updates the list of preferred networks to include a new preferred network if it is not included in the list or changes the ranking of the networks should they be incorrectly ranked in the list when the mobile equipment roams into the new preferred network. When the list of preferred networks in the control file has been updated, the roaming management application can determine whether the mobile equipment has roamed into a preferred network in accordance with the desired roaming behavior for the location at which the mobile equipment has roamed to. However, the method does not actively move or force the mobile equipment to use the new preferred network right away but trusts that the mobile equipment is sufficiently smart to switch to the new preferred network the next time a network search is performed since the list of preferred networks is then updated to be in conformance with the desired roaming behavior.

RE Attorney Docket No. 502.1152USN 3/29/07 - 7 -

Bridges merely discloses a conventional roaming system that, basically, has now become standard in modern mobile telephones according to, for example, the widely used GSM standard. In Bridges system, a generator generates a list
5 of the preferred wireless carrier identities. The generated list is transmitted to each mobile station by a data-providing device (see for example the abstract and col. 5, lines 58-64). In this way, each mobile station is kept updated as roaming airtime rates and other service characteristics of the
10 operators change. In col. 4, lines 18-48, Bridges explains that corporations may have national account subscribers so that the preferred wireless carrier may be selected based upon predetermined classes of service of the subscribers (col. 5, lines 18-52). All the mobile stations previously provided
15 with the list are updated. The mobile phone selects a preferred wireless carrier from the updated list when then mobile phone enters a roaming area (see col. 6, lines 35-50). This means the mobile phones are provided with the updated list whether the phone is roaming or not. The updating of the
20 list is, among other things, based on changes of roaming agreements between operators (col. 4, lines 36-48) but not at all on the current location of the mobile phone. More particularly, it should be noted that Bridges teaches no dynamic updating of the list wherein it is the current
25 location of the mobile phone that is the trigger for the updating of the list to make sure the list is according to the desired roaming behavior for the location of the mobile phone.

In contrast, Bridges teaches updating the list as decided by a central unit such as a centralized PSL/IRDB database, as explained in col. 19, lines 46-60. In other words, the updating is not directly based on the desired roaming behavior for the location. In contrast, Bridges updates the list of the mobile phone regardless whether the mobile phone is roaming or not. As indicated earlier, the
35 updating decision is rather based on the latest roaming

RF Attorney Docket No. 502.1152USN 3/29/07 - 8 -

agreement between the operators or when the mobile phone changes its class of service and other factor as listed in col. 15, lines 37-49.

This means the comparison between the current
5 roaming setting and the desired roaming behavior for the particular is not started upon receipt of the roaming signal from the mobile phone. The updating of the lists is made regardless of the location of the mobile phone. Also, there is no dynamic comparison between the current roaming setting
10 and the desired roaming behavior for the location where the mobile phone is currently located.

In summary, it is submitted that the cited references fail to teach or suggest the steps of:

- 15 1) upon receipt of the roaming information from the mobile equipment, the roaming management application comparing a current roaming setting of the mobile equipment with a desired roaming behavior for the location of the mobile equipment during roaming;
- 20 2) the roaming management application determining whether the list of preferred networks in the control is updated in accordance with the desired roaming behavior for the location for the mobile equipment; and
- 25 3) when the list is updated, the roaming application manager determining whether the mobile equipment roamed into a preferred network in accordance with the desired roaming behavior for the location for the mobile equipment.

Applicants fails to see why a person of ordinary skill in the art would look to Bridges and the other cited references to learn about the dynamic updating of the list of
30 preferred networks as needed depending upon the location of the roaming mobile equipment when Bridges teaches that the list is only updated as decided by a central database and not based on the actual location of the mobile phone. In fact, Bridges updates the list in the mobile phones regardless of
35 whether the mobile phone is roaming or not. Also, Bridges

RF Attorney Docket No. 502.1152USN 3/29/07 - 9 -

updates the list in the mobile phones based on factors that
are substantially different from the desired roaming behavior
of the actual location of the mobile phone. In contrast,
Bridges updates large amounts of mobile phones from a central
5 database so that the list in each phone conforms to the latest
roaming agreement etc. It is submitted it would be
impractical or almost impossible to modify Bridges to
dynamically update each mobile phone according to the location
of all the mobile phones since the mobile phones are most
10 likely in different locations so it would be very difficult to
correctly rank the preferred wireless carriers in the latest
version of the generic list that is sent to all the mobile
phones.

It is submitted Bridges would require extensive
15 modification that is not taught or suggested in the cited
references, to meet all the limitations of the amended claim
1.

In view thereof, it is submitted that the amended
claim 1 is allowable.

20 Claims 5-9 are submitted to be allowable because
they depend upon the allowable base claim 1 and because each
claim includes limitations that are not taught or suggested in
the cited references.

Claim 10 is submitted to be allowable for reasons
25 that are similar to the reasons put forth for the allowability
of the amended claim 1. The amended claim 10 includes no new
matter. For example, the dynamic use of the lists is
discussed on page 8, line 30. The dynamic roaming management
is also discussed on page 5, lines 20-30. The comparison
30 between the current roaming setting and the desired roaming
behavior for the location that the mobile equipment roamed
into is supported by, for example, the abstract.

Claims 2-4 were rejected under Section 103 as being
obvious over Bridges in view of Bamburak. This rejection is
35 respectfully traversed.

RF Attorney Docket No. 502.1152USN 3/29/07 - 10 -

Claims 2-4 are submitted to be allowable because they depend upon the allowable base claim 1 and because each claim includes limitations that are not taught or suggested in the cited references.

5 The application is submitted to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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